

## MINUTES

### COUNCIL ADMINISTRATOR FORM OF GOVERNMENT FOR AIKEN COUNTY

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 736 RICHLAND AVENUE, W., AIKEN, S. C.

REGULAR MEETING – MAY 18, 2004 – 7:00 P. M.

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#### (A) CALL TO ORDER

Determining that a quorum was present, Chairman Young called the meeting to order.

Council Members present:

Chairman Ronnie Young  
Kathy Rawls  
Scott Singer  
Chuck Smith  
Eddie Butler  
Charles Barton  
Rick Osbon  
Willar H. Hightower, Jr.

Council Members absent:

LaWana McKenzie

Also present:

J. Clay Killian, County Administrator  
Robert M. Bell, County Attorney  
Tamara Sullivan, Council Clerk

#### (B) INVOCATION

Councilman Hightower led in the invocation.

#### (C) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilman Osbon led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### (D) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. May 4, 2004 Worksession
2. May 4, 2004 Regular Meeting

- a. Councilman Smith made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilman Osbon seconded.
- b. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

#### (E) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- a. Councilman Osbon made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilman Butler seconded.
- b. The agenda was approved by unanimous vote.

(F) PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Proposed Ordinance Directing that the Implementation of Real Property Reassessment in Aiken County be Delayed for One (1) Year, as Authorized by Statute; and Other Matters Related Thereto.

- a. No comments were made.

(G) CONSENT AGENDA/INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING

I. REGULAR CONSENT AGENDA

1. Proposed Resolution to Appoint One Member to Designated Boards, Commissions and Committees with Terms of the Appointees to Run Concurrent with that of the Councilmember from Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7.  
(Rawls, Singer, McKenzie, Smith, Butler, Barton, Osbon)
2. Proposed Resolution to Approve the Allocation of Funds for Various Non Profit Agencies from the FY 2004 Council Contingency Fund.  
(County Council)
3. Proposed Resolution to Authorize Inmates Confined to the Aiken County Detention Center who Work for Various County Departments to be Covered Under the County's Workers' Compensation Plan.  
(Judicial and Public Safety Committee)
4. Proposed Resolution to Authorize the County Administrator to Accept a Grant from the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division for a Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Grant.  
(Judicial and Public Safety Committee)
5. Proposed Resolution to Authorize the County Administrator to Accept a Grant from the South Carolina Law Enforcement Division for a Homeland Security Grant, Emergency Operations Center Allocation, and COBRA Team Allocation.  
(Judicial and Public Safety Committee)
6. Proposed Resolution to Authorize the Council Chairman to Execute an Amended Contract with Evans M. Bunch, III & Associates, Inc. for Title Research on Delinquent Tax Parcels.  
(Administrative Committee)
7. Proposed Ordinance Directing that the Implementation of Real Property Reassessment in Aiken County be Delayed for One (1) Year, as Authorized by Statute; and Other Matters Related Thereto.  
(County Council) (Second Reading)

II. CONSENT AGENDA/INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING

8. Proposed Ordinance to Establish a Local Three Percent Tax on Accommodations in Aiken County.  
(County Council)

9. Proposed Ordinance to Declare Certain Property, Known as the Willie Whaley Park and Located in the Town of Burnetttown, as Surplus and to Authorize Its Transfer to the Town of Burnetttown.  
(Development Committee)
  - a. Councilman Smith made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilman Butler seconded.
  - b. The Consent Agenda was approved by unanimous vote.

(H) NEW BUSINESS

1. Proposed Resolution to Authorize the Council Chairman to Enter into an Agreement with Ronlyn Food Services for the Summer Food Program.  
(Development Committee)
  - a. Councilman Barton made a motion for approval. Councilwoman Rawls seconded.
  - b. Passed by unanimous vote.
2. Presentation of the FY 2005 County Operating Budget.  
(Mr. Clay Killian, County Administrator)
  - a. Mr. Killian read the Budget Message into the record and presented the budget to Council.  
  
A four percent growth in the value of the mil is projected, bringing the value of the County mil to approximately \$400,000.  
  
Approximately 1.4 million dollars in debt was retired last year.  
  
48 new positions were requested but have not been included in the projected budget.
3. Proposed Ordinance to Establish Operating, Capital and Debt Service Budgets for Aiken County, South Carolina for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2004 Through June 30, 2005; to Provide for the Levy of Taxes for County Operations, Capital and Debt Service; to Provide for All Other Estimated Revenues and for the Appropriation Thereof; and to Provide for Other Matters Related Thereto.  
(County Council) (First Reading) (To Be Distributed)
  - a. Councilman Osbon made a motion for the adoption. Councilman Butler seconded.
  - b. First reading of the budget passed by unanimous vote with Councilman Hightower abstaining by voting present.

(I) ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND THE PUBLIC RECORD

1. Fiscal Year 2004 Aiken County Contingency Report as of May 5, 2004.

(J) INFORMAL MEETING OF WHOLE

- a. Mr. Franklin Jackson, Bath Water and Sewer District, asked about the progress on the requested Ordinance to prohibit burning at night.  
  
Mr. Killian stated that staff was still in the process of researching information. An Ordinance will be drafted for Council's consideration.

- b. Mr. Steve Harrison, a resident of Broadway Street in Council District 2, approached Council about the poor condition of the road. Mr. Harrison and other residents had submitted a petition two years ago for paving and had requested regular maintenance for the road as well.

Councilman Singer pointed out that Broadway Street was one of the roads selected for paving under the Capital Projects Sales Tax referendum in November. Councilman Singer offered to meet with the residents to discuss their concerns.

- c. Councilman Hightower questioned the fairness of the division of funds on the Capital Projects Sales Tax list and proposed a new formula for the distribution of those funds so that each Council District would receive a more equitable portion.

Councilman Hightower made a Voice Motion to forward his proposed formula for distribution of the Capital Projects Sales Tax funds to the Development Committee for review and recommendations. Councilman Osbon seconded the Voice Motion.

Councilman Smith responded that the Capital Projects Sales Tax funds are intended to benefit Aiken County as a whole and for that reason that is probably why the legislature has required that a group of independent citizens make the decisions about the projects to be considered.

Councilman Hightower's Voice Motion passed by majority vote with Councilwoman Rawls, Councilman Butler, Councilman Barton, Councilman Osbon, Councilman Hightower and the Chairman voting in favor. Councilman Singer and Councilman Smith voted in opposition.

Councilman Butler clarified that this action would in no way hinder the work of the appointed Commission.

- d. Councilwoman Rawls made a motion to recess for Executive Session. Councilman Butler seconded.
- e. The motion to recess passed by unanimous vote

RECESSED – 7:53 P. M.

(K) EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 1. Legal Matters:
  - a. Status Report on Pending Litigation, Legal Claims and Legal Advice.  
(County Attorney) (Verbal)
- 2. Contractual Matters:
- 3. Personnel Matters:

RECONVENED – 8:17 P. M.

- a. Following Executive Session, Councilman Smith made a Voice Motion to approve the construction of the Hydrogen Facility in accordance with the plan Council received this evening. Councilman Singer amended the motion by adding the approval of the lease for that facility with the Westinghouse Savannah River Company (WSRC).
- b. Councilman Butler seconded the Voice Motion.
- c. The Voice Motion was approved by unanimous vote.

(L) ADJOURNMENT – 8:18 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

SIGNED:

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Tamara Sullivan, Council Clerk

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Ronnie Young, Chairman